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Newsletter

Number 19

27 July 2012



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. To those parents who help out in classrooms, library, school garden etc on a weekly basis - you really make a difference and your efforts are appreciated.

.. To Mr Schuster for organising our team for "The Great Train Build Off" .. and the team for donating the train to our junior school. .. and Jennie Clarke for her assistance in the build up.

.. To Steve Martin and the Martin boys for installing the safe walkway to the upper carpark and for helping out with the recent metalling work.

.. To our "Milk Mums" for helping with the distribution of milk at school this week

People of the week

.. Jazz and Nathaniel for awesome story writing this week - stories feature later in the newsletter.

.. Our train building team (Oliver, Maycee, Daniel and Ayden)

.. Congratulations to Max, Bayden, Jordan, Luke who are in the Rugby U11 Whangarei Rep Team

.. Our senior debating teams for fantastic performances at a debating competition at Whangarei Intermediate School this week - year 7's lost by one point and our year 8's won by one point. Well done!

OUR COMMENCING VIRTUE THIS TERM IS ENTHUSIASM

Support material was sent home last week. Please ..

.. take time to discuss this with your child(ren)

.. talk about how enthusiasm has benefited you in the past and how you practise this in the present.

.. help your child set some enthusiasm targets.

.. let us know of any special demonstrations of enthusiasm so that we can celebrate these through our newsletter.

Can you help?

We are currently assessing the viability / affordability of installing a new sandpit near the junior school .. not only do children love sandpits, sandpits can also be used during developmental learning time.

The plan is to do phase one ourselves (soon) and then undertake a phase two upgrade when we can afford this. If we can do phase one ourselves we stand to make considerable savings (which can be spent on learning resources) as well as benefit the children in the junior school right now. We are interested in hearing from people ..

.. who have / have access to a digger or bobcat and who can spend an hour or two digging our hole.

.. who are willing to help construct some timber sidings for the pit

.. who are willing to help out with the spreading of sand

.. who maybe can get some largish rocks (size to be determined)

.. who can maybe help with materials

We don't want to call on the same parents all the time but if you think you may be able to help please email Kevin on principal@matarau.school.nz or on 4335823. Thank you!

Coming up this term

30 July	Group International Students arrive
30 July	Whangarei Girls High Presentation at Matarau (more to follow)
31 July	International Schools English Examination
6 August	Excellere College, Matarau info afternoon, 2pm
7 August	School Cross Country
8 August	Whangarei Girls' High School Open Evening
9 August	KHS Open Night
9 August	WBHS Matarau Info afternoon 2pm
10 August	Mathex (1:30 PM)
13 August	School photos
14 August	International Schools Mathematics Examination
14 August	WGHS enrolment interviews
14 August	WBHS Open Evening
15 August	KHS Meet the Principal & Senior Mgrs, Matarau 7pm
16 August	Zone Cross Country (Taniwha Challenge at TeHoro School)
23 August	Senior abseiling at Waipu
27 August	Regional Science and Technology Fair
28 August	Children year 6 and up visit the Regional Science Fair
30 August	KHS enrolment interviews
1 September	Trivia Night
5 September	Senior girls HPV dose 3
7 September	Interschool Cross Country at Barge Park
9-14 September	AIMS Games
21 September	Northland Cross Country
24 September	School Production week .. performances to be confirmed
26 September	Shake Out Day .. more to follow
28 September	Final day of term 3

After School Care.

We have a parent interested in providing After School Care for children in their family home on a private basis, pick up after school, snacks provided, homework attended. This parent has relevant experience, has been police vetted by the school and is available to start immediately. If interested please contact - Carol Welsh at home: 4335035 or Cell: 021 0817 9805

Going For Gold

This year we have a school wide focus on fiction reading. This term we are launching our Olympic themed system called **Going for Gold!** The main aim is to increase reading mileage, i.e. the amounts of time children spend reading and to get children buzzing about the books they read.



Children will work towards a bronze, then silver, then gold medal. The success criteria to achieve the three levels were sent home last week. Most things to be completed will be done at school. The part to complete at home is the **read your way to London**The children have been invited to "fly" - read their way to London. This would take approximately 25 hours by plane divided into 3 legs. For each 15 minutes they read please sign the table provided. You

can help your child by:

- Providing a reading time, before bed or other.
- Helping them to select appropriate reading material at their level. This may be brought home from our library or selected from the public library, borrowed from friends etc.
- Encouraging them to read more.
- Being a role model, reading at the same time they do.

Please see your classroom teacher if you have any questions.
Thank you for your help.



International Schools Competitions

The International Schools English Examination is scheduled for next Tuesday (31st). We suggest a night off practice papers the night before and an early night. Good luck to all participants.
(The maths exam is scheduled for 14 August and so there is still time for two or three more practice papers)

Portfolios If you have not yet returned your child's portfolio please return this next week. Thank you.

"IN" MONTH TREASURE HUNT- LAST DAY TOMORROW!!

The prizes must go! If you haven't done it yet - head on down to the CBD and allocate a couple of hours to completing the Treasure Hunt of Matarau School Science Fair projects. Forms are available to pick up **and drop off** from Inferno in the Strand, Classics in the Civic Arcade (Lower Bank St), and the History on Wheels exhibition in the Town Basin opposite the children's playground. Completed forms can also be scanned and emailed to Hana at packard@orcon.net.nz
Or dropped into the letterbox at 93 Finlayson Rd. Ages 7-17 are eligible, and a half trail option is available. Good luck! Ph 4350230 or 0274352786

Also - *Science Fair Boards* will be returning to school Monday and Tuesday next week. If you would like to make any other arrangements please contact Hana directly before Monday. Ph 4350230. A huge thanks to the parents who helped set up - you were truly treasures!

Preparation for Cross Country

You will already have noted that cross country looms pretty large this term. Children have begun their preparations and some are already "measuring up the competition". We know that not all children are champion runners but try to encourage them all to participate and to do their best. Please assist us to lift fitness levels in preparation for these events. Parents can also help by ensuring that (Monday through Thursday) children have a change of clothes, footwear suitable for road running and a drink bottle.
This year's cross country is sponsored by Whangarei Physiotherapy.

Milk in Schools

Milk will be issued from the canteen during intervals on a Monday and a Wednesday. If you would like to opt your child in, and have not yet done so, please give the office a call. Please note that children will need to report to the canteen on/at the designated days/times .. they will not be chased up and milk will not be delivered to classrooms. If available to help with distribution please contact Sharon Smith on 027 631 9361.

Headlice Inspection

Will be held Wednesday 1 August 2012. Please contact Donna Cates at school if able to help out. All parents are asked to check their children's hair weekly and to take necessary action promptly in the event of infestation.

Scabies Infection

Please keep an eye out for scabies which presents as a persistent itchy rash which is highly contagious. To this point school seems to be clear, but let's keep it this way. Any doubts please contact your doctor.

Calf Club Day

A reminder that Calf Club Day is scheduled for Thursday 18 October (the Thursday before Labour Weekend). Calf and lamb rearing books are available from the office for those children unsure of what the judges look for on the day, along with a short description of calf club and what it involves for new families. Much more to follow.

Year 7 and 8 Technology Programme

.. started last week and will run for the rest of the year. Each Friday parents are asked to ensure that children have appropriate clothing and footwear (and their lunches) and that they are at school no later than 8:45 AM for an early bus departure .. please note that the bus cannot wait! Any questions please to Mr D. or Mrs Donaldson. Thanks to those who have paid their technology fees to the school office.

The Year 6 Building Expo 2012

The building expo was a very fun day. We had to build our train that we painted at school last week. We learnt how to use lots of different tools. We would like to say thank you Pete Brown the Certified Builder who helped us build the train on the day, Resene for supplying us with our paint, Jennie Clarke for supervising the painting and also last but not least thank you to the Certified Builders Association for holding this event, we all had a great time. The Upper Middle School bought the train back at the auction and have gifted it to the Junior School. We hope they enjoy it.



Mrs Witte .. for those who missed this last week!

It is with regret that we advise that Mrs Witte has tendered her resignation effective from 20 August to take up a teaching position in Dubai. Mrs Witte has been a conscientious much valued staff member since her arrival here six years ago and she will be sorely missed. We recognise that this is an exciting opportunity for Mrs Witte and we wish her well with her future professional and travel plans.

Please note that we will be holding a farewell morning tea for Mrs Witte 10:30 AM Tuesday 14 August and parents are warmly invited to be present at this morning tea. If you think you can make it please give Helen a call so we can confirm catering arrangements. This is an opportunity for us to celebrate Mrs Witte's contributions to our school and to extend our best wishes.

(I am pleased to advise the parents of room 8 children that Mrs Scheibmair will be teaching in room 8 until the end of the year. Mrs Scheibmair is an extremely good teacher with experience picking up classes part way through the year. Mrs Scheibmair and Mrs Witte are already working to ensure a seamless transition).

Finally SOME AIRLINE HUMOUR Qantas Airlines: Repair Division

After every flight, Qantas pilots fill out a form, called a "Gripe Sheet" which tells mechanics about problems with the aircraft. The mechanics correct the problems; document their repairs on the form, and then pilots review the Gripe Sheets before the next flight. Never let it be said that ground crews lack a sense of humour. Here are some actual maintenance complaints submitted by Qantas' pilots (marked with a P) and the solutions recorded (marked with an S) by maintenance engineers. By the way, Qantas is the only major airline that has never, ever, had an accident. WILL FEED YOU ONE A WEEK.

P: Test flight OK, except auto-land very rough.

S: Auto-land not installed on this aircraft.

Have a great weekend!

Remember .. don't forget to keep 7 August free (pp 8.8)
to attend our School Cross Country. More to follow!

Regards,
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

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Community Notices

Home based child care - Police checked - ages 0-5 - 5 years experience.

Contact Toni 433 5596 or 021 176 9153. .

For Sale - border collie pups, 1 x male red & white; 2 x female black & white; 3 x male black & white; \$550 for B/W; \$650 for R/W, Ready to go 21st August. Call Mandy on 435 0559 or 021 101 8361

Community Notices

After School Drama Classes - Wednesdays @ Whangarei Intermediate School, ages 8-11 4:30 -5:30, ages 12 plus 5:30- 6:30
Ph 433 0288, info@makingascene.co.nz.

Parenting Toolbox sessions - Join a Toolbox parenting group and learn how to build a great family team. Discover new parenting ideas and discuss successful strategies in a six week group course. Toolbox groups are free of charge to whanau caregivers, foster carers, adopters, grandparents raising grandchildren and Home for Life parents thanks to government funding. If you would like more information about Toolbox parenting groups in Northland contact Debbie Short 09 433 5040

Art Competition for Calf Club – Children rearing a calf for calf club can enter this competition, www.calfclub.co.nz for more details. Win prizes for you, your parents and your school.

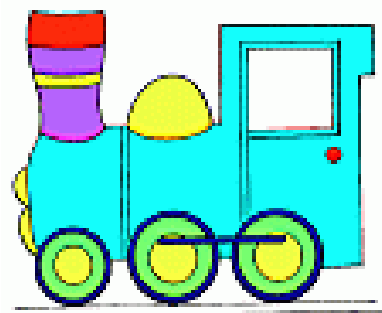
Meadow Fresh Promotion – Collect yellow Cool Stuff for Kids stickers found on specially stickered Meadow fresh milk and yoghurt packs. Stickers must be at school by Friday 19th October.

Bobby Calf Fundraiser – AFFCO NZ Ltd is again running the Cash for schools bobby calf fundraising programme this season. This is a fantastic opportunity to generate cash for the school. Last year AFFCO NZ Ltd donated more than \$100,000 to local schools as a result of the programme. All you have to do is register your bobby calves with AFFCO NZ Ltd for the current season, and nominate our school for the donation. It doesn't cost you anything because AFFCO NZ Ltd pays the donation over and above normal supplier payments. If you don't have a dairy farm, then sign up your neighbours, friends and whanau.

The New Train – stories from Room 4.

The new train has inspired lots of imaginative play.

I went on the train and when I went on it I thought I was going to the North Pole. There were clouds and I was freezing cold. There were hundreds of elves. They were sending down the presents. I got to see the reindeers. I got 2,000,000 presents. Santa gave me a santa costume.



By Jazz, Room 4

Hazza and I went on the train. We went to Zombie Vampire Island. I saw lots of Zombie-Vampires. They were chasing us. But they were really pretend ghosts.

By Nathaniel, Room 4

School Fundraising

Raffle Tickets

Still lots of tickets outstanding - please return all sold or unsold tickets to the office early next week. Many thanks for supporting our fundraising efforts.



Matarau's Annual Community Trivia Night Fundraiser

1st September 2012, Matarau School Hall

We Need Your Help Please!

Our Annual Trivia Night is fast approaching - anyone able to help out with our Trivia Night this year would be greatly appreciated. This is a big fundraiser for the school and we are grateful for any help given big or small

We need help finding

- ✓ Table Sponsors
- ✓ Assembly of prize packages
- ✓ Setup the day before &
- ✓ Prizes (big & small)
- ✓ Cleanup the day after



Please ask your employer or businesses to be a sponsor or if they can donate a prize. We have letters available at the office to send out to potential sponsors or prize donators.

This is the school's biggest fundraiser and we need to raise as much money to help our kids as possible. We already have a small team together so you won't be landed with everything!

Tickets will be available for purchase at the school office next week, get your team together and get ready for a fun night out. Supper provided, but BYO drinks.

Contact Wendy Francis on 435 4659 if you have any queries or for further details.

**Next meeting Thursday 2nd August 2012, here at school at 7.30pm.
Come along & meet our enthusiastic team and bring a friend too!**

School Lunches

Mondays - \$3.00 : Baked Beans or Spaghetti served with toast & grated cheese (optional) & a juice, or Chicken or Beef Cup of Noodles & a juice. Order at the office by morning tea on Monday.

Wednesdays - \$1.50 : for Sausage in a bread with sauce. Order on Wednesday mornings through the class teacher.

Fridays - \$4.00 : Hot Mince or Mince 'n' Cheese Pie, Jumbo Sausage Roll or Sausage Roll (with Museli Bar), Butter Chicken or Mince n Cheese Wraps and a Fruit Drink. You can swap the Fruit drink for a Flavoured Milk for \$4.50. Order by Wednesday at the office, to receive Friday.